

Today's News - Tuesday, July 23, 2013

- Eyeful of the "ambitious" designs proposed by the six (impressive) finalists in Melbourne's Flinders Street Station competition (whether the winning one will be built is still to be determined).
- OMA is on roll: after winning big in Miami Beach, it's been tapped to redevelop 19 acres of Greenwich Peninsula in east London.
- For Naimi, the "silver lining" in Detroit's bankruptcy is "there seems to be an actual plan that we will follow. What we have done in the past did not work" (finding the "fun" in Dysfunction is not sustainable").
- Chambers explains how "elderly-centered urbanism could help create sustainable developments with a soul."
- Hawthorne spends some serious time reacquainting himself with LACMA's "potentially doomed buildings" and finds some surprises: "there is a very fine line between a building that is unfashionable and one that is ripe for rediscovery" (a great read).
- Dallas Museum of Art's Anderson is a bit scorched that the Nasher is being "reduced to an anecdote in the media" because of the burning problems with heat/light reflections off Museum Tower.
- Byrnes explains "how we ruined Gruen's plan for more walkable, tight-knit American downtowns" by turning them into "a formulaic collection" of enclosed spaces surrounded by parking lots: he "would probably be happy to know the American shopping mall is on its way to becoming a relic."
- Rybczynski takes on devotees of parametric design: "nothing ages faster than yesterday's vision of the future. Just ask Jules Verne...Don't put away the soft pencils and yellow trace just yet" (with Hadid "a poster child for the caulking industry" - your other must-read of the day).
- A departing politician decided he wanted to show what Libeskind's planned Holocaust memorial for Columbus, OH, will look like with "a ramshackle mock-up" (an "infuriated" Nina called it "very cynical").
- Meier may be the latest starchitect on Tel Aviv's skyline with a tower he thinks "symbolizes an ongoing optimism" ("the architectural contribution is still in doubt").
- With London set to get its own High Line park, the "trend for cultivating green spaces in the city looks set to spread."
- It's a great time to head to the beaches with new comfort stations that are "perhaps the most radical addition" to NYC's coastline, and "eclectic" beach pavilion designs that "will ratchet up to a whole new level" in Sarasota County, FL.
- Foster's Gherkin is named CTBUH's inaugural 10 Year Award winner.
- Eyeful of the winning designs in the International Gastronomic Center/IGC Brussels student competition.
- Call for entries/Deadline extended: Workplace of the Future Design Competition.

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Flinders Street Station designs revealed: Six ambitious new designs...The Victorian government will have two years to decide if they will implement the endorsed design or, perhaps, whether the winning architect budgeted beyond what they are willing to spend. -- Ashton Raggatt McDougal/ARM; John Wardle Architects/Grimshaw; NH Architecture; Zaha Hadid Architecture/BVN Architecture; HASSELL/Herzog & de Meuron; Eduardo Velasquez/Manuel Pineda/Santiago Medina [images] - Sydney Morning Herald

OMA appointed to masterplan Greenwich Peninsula: ...lead architect to redevelop Morden Wharf, in east London...The Rem Koolhaas' practice will create a masterplan for a mixed-used scheme on the 19 acre regeneration site...next to the O2 Arena... - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Opinion: Bankruptcy, the beginning of another opportunity: We may have found the "fun" in Dysfunction, but this is not sustainable....The silver lining...is that for the first time that I am aware of, there seems to be an actual plan that we will follow. What we have done in the past did not work. By Matthew Naimi/Recycle Here- Model D (Detroit)

Old City: the New Paradigm: A look at how elderly-centered urbanism could help create sustainable developments with a soul: The best cities in the world...market themselves as meccas for young, energetic people...This generates a lack of ideal architecture for people over the age of 65 and shuts the door on them. Thus we lose the knowledge, stability, and experience they provide to civilization. By Neil Chambers/Chambers Design- Metropolis Magazine

For LACMA's 'old' buildings, no time like the present: It's time to get reacquainted: What did I discover? For starters, that the potentially doomed buildings work better as an ensemble...surprisingly, that the 1986 addition...is a piece of architecture with more verve — and a better sense of humor — than I'd realized... there is a very fine line between a building that is unfashionable and one that is ripe for rediscovery. By Christopher Hawthorne -- Peter Zumthor; William Pereira (1960s); Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates/HHPA (1986)- Los Angeles Times

Dallas Museum of Art's Maxwell Anderson says Texas should celebrate its architectural trinity [Kimbell Art Museum, The Menil Collection, Nasher Sculpture Center]: "And to have one of these three be reduced to an anecdote in the media is a terrible setback for the city and not just for the Arts District." -- Louis Kahn; Renzo Piano- Dallas Morning News

Victor Gruen Wanted to Make Our Suburbs More Urban. Instead, He Invented the Mall: How we ruined Gruen's plan for more walkable, tight-knit American downtowns....It was an early stab at new urbanism...[he] would probably be happy to know the American shopping mall is on its way to becoming a relic. By Mark Byrnes- The Atlantic Cities

Lost Amid the Algorithms: Patrik Schumacher and devotees of parametric design have embraced its capacity for futuristic formmaking. But its real potential—to improve building performance—remains unrealized...nothing ages faster than yesterday's vision of the future. Just ask Jules Verne...Don't put away the soft pencils and yellow trace just yet. By Witold Rybczynski -- Jaroslaw Ceborski; Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Zaha Hadid; Antoine Picon; Nicholas Grimshaw, AIA, and; Norman Foster; Moshe Safdie; Arup; Christopher Alexander- Architect Magazine

Does mock-up at Statehouse mock Holocaust memorial? Departing chief of Capitol Square board said he wanted to show what project will look like: ...a ramshackle mock-up...infuriated Nina Libeskind...She called it "very cynical and not at all what it will look like." -- Daniel Libeskind- Columbus Dispatch (Ohio)

The 'starchitect' on Tel Aviv's skyline: Richard Meier is the last of the New York Five architects to keep working in minimalist white. Now that theme will be towering over Tel Aviv...."I think Meier-on-Rothschild symbolizes an ongoing optimism"...the architectural contribution is still in doubt. -- Bareli, Levitsky, Kasif- Ha'aretz (Israel)

London set to get its own "High Line" park: Landscaped walkway will enhance emerging art district on south side of Thames: "The idea is to connect the gallery district that is emerging in Vauxhall in a green and interesting way"...The trend for cultivating green spaces in the city looks set to spread, with plans for a pedestrian bridge incorporating a garden... -- Erect Architecture; J & L Gibbons Landscape Architecture and Urban Design; Thomas Heatherwick/Arup [images]- The Art Newspaper (UK)

Staten Island's East Shore beaches a hive of activity: The new comfort stations are perhaps the most radical addition to the coastline...modular units...carry a zero net energy rating...a new type of beach architecture will focus on environmental resistance, resilience, a strong community and a greater respect and exchange with

nature. -- Garrison Architects [image]- Staten Island Advance (NYC)

Sand and design meet in eclectic beach pavilions: ...a group of architecturally progressive beach pavilions for Sarasota County...pavilion design will ratchet up to a whole new level..."These buildings are about community identity, too." -- Sweet Sparkman Architects (formerly TOTeMS Architecture) [image]- Herald- Tribune (Florida)

CTBUH Names Inaugural 10 Year Award Winner: 30 St. Mary Axe, London, United popularly known as "The Gherkin." -- Foster + Partners [link to project details]- Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH)

Decision of the Jury of International Gastronomic Center/IGC Brussels student competition -- Viktor Nilsson/Pierre Maccario (Sweden); Enrique Alonso Blanco/Patricia Ocaña Alcober (Spain); Margaux Leycuras/Adrien Girard (France) [link to images, info]- Arquideas (Spain)

Call for entries/Deadline extended: Workplace of the Future Design Competition: How will we work in 2020? cash prizes; no entry fee; deadline now: August 7- Metropolis Magazine / Business Interiors by Staples

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